



Montana Economic Developers Association

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March 14, 2007

TO: HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
Rep. John Sinrud, Chair

RE: HB5 AN ACT APPROPRIATING MONEY FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS

The Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA) represents more than 200 economic development professionals that work throughout the State. Most of our members work for local economic development organizations that are supported by private sector businesses and local governmental entities. We all have different priorities, but we share a strong common interest: building a better economy for Montana citizens.

This letter is sent to encourage your support of HB5. Of particular interest to MEDA is funding for the Challenge Grant for the Super Computer project that will open the door for economic development, new jobs and cutting-edge research for Montana.

Funding for this project would ultimately impact every aspect of science and research in the state. In addition, this asset would create a knowledge-based economy, a "green" technology that would attract high paying jobs and professionals.

Please support this incredible opportunity that will grow business, attract the best and brightest students and keep college graduates in our state. To support and encourage economic development in Montana, we urge your favorable consideration of HB5.

Sincerely,

Rick Edwards
President

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